



ST. NICHOLAS COLLEGE
NAXXAR BOYS' SECONDARY SCHOOL
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATIONS 2015

TRACK
1

FORM 3

ENGLISH

TIME: 2 HOURS

Name: _____ Index No: _____ Class: _____

Marks			
Oral Assessment	Listening Comprehension	Written Paper	Total

SECTION A: LANGUAGE

(15 marks)

1. Fill in the blanks with a suitable preposition from the list below. The first one (0) has been done for you. 5 marks []

between	of	under	to	for
at	across	since	after	of

Turkey is a Eurasian country that stretches (0) across the Anatolian peninsula in south-western Asia and the Balkan region of south-eastern Europe. The region comprising modern Turkey has seen the birth (1) _____ major civilizations including the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires. Owing (2) _____ its strategic location (3) _____ the intersection of two continents, Turkey's culture is a unique blend (4) _____ Eastern and Western tradition, often described as a bridge (5) _____ the two civilizations. Turkey is a democratic, secular, unitary, constitutional republic whose political system was established in 1923 (6) _____ the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk following the fall of the Ottoman Empire (7) _____ World War I. Since then, Turkey has increasingly integrated with the West while continuing to foster relations with the Eastern world. It is a founding member (8) _____ the United Nations, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Organization (9) _____ Security and Co-operation in Europe, and a member state of the Council of Europe (10) _____ 1949.

2. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in brackets. The first one (0) has been done for you. 5 marks []

I usually (0) **get up** (get up) late on Saturday morning. It (1) _____ (be) the beginning of the week-end and I like to relax. But on that particular Saturday two months ago I (2) _____ (have) to get out of bed at six in the morning. Terrible sounds of sirens and horns (3) - _____ (come) from the street straight into my room. I (4) _____ (walk) over to the window to see what (5) _____ (happen). Two cars had crashed on the corner near the bakery. Lots of angry people (6) _____ (scream) and shouting at each other. The baker (7) _____ (try) to calm everybody down. So he (8) _____ (bring) out coffee and cookies for everyone. "What a nice neighbour!" I (9) _____ (think). I smiled to myself and (10) _____ (go) back to bed.

3. Use a, an, the, some or any to fill in the blanks of the text below. The first one (0) has been done for you. 5 marks []

I recently discovered that money doesn't buy as much as it used to. I had been living in (0) a dormitory for two years and hadn't had to buy (1) _____ food for (2) _____ whole time. Then, I moved into (3) an apartment where I needed to buy food for myself. The first day I wanted to get some juice, (4) _____ meat, bread and butter. I went to (5) _____ nearest grocery store and put everything into (6) _____ cart. When I went to pay, I found that (7) _____ juice I had chosen cost €2.50 and (8) _____ meat €7.80. This was more expensive than I thought. (9) _____ money I had brought with me was not enough, and I had to put back (10) _____ items on the shelf where I got them from. Now, when I go shopping, I take more money.

SECTION B: READING COMPREHENSION

(20 marks)

1. Underline the best answer.

1 mark []

The man at the corner table kept looking at the writer because:

- he was bored with reading his newspaper.
- he thought that the writer was someone wanted by the police.
- he was afraid that the writer might run away.
- he thought he recognised the writer.

2. Give complete answers to these questions:

6 marks []

- a. At what time did the writer go to the restaurant?
_____.
- b. What was the food at the restaurant like?
_____.
- c. Why was the writer sure that he did not know the man at the corner table?
_____.
- d. Did the detective look at the writer after he came out of the kitchen? Why?
_____.
- e. Had the writer already paid his bill when he called the owner of the restaurant over? Why?
_____.
- f. Was the detective following the wrong man? How do you know?
_____.

3. Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

6 marks []

- a. The writer walked along the seafront for about an hour because
_____.
- b. The detective was puzzled by the fact that
_____.
- c. The writer insisted that the restaurant owner should tell him
_____.

4. Choose the best explanation according to the context:

2 marks []

Keeping an eye on (l.11) means:

- i. watching
- ii. looking at
- iii. glancing at
- iv. looking in the direction of

5. Find the words or phrases in the passage which mean the same as the following:

5 marks []

- a. expressed approval of (par. 1) - _____
- b. watching me closely (par. 2) - _____
- c. in the end (par. 2) - _____
- d. resembled (par. 3) - _____
- e. make someone believe (par. 3) - _____

SECTION C: LITERATURE

(20 marks)

PART 1: POETRY – UNPREPARED TEXT

10 marks []

Read this text and answer **all** the questions.

City Jungle
by Pie Corbett

Rain splinters town. 1

Lizard cars cruise by;
their radiators grin.

Thin headlights stare –
shop doorways keep 5
their mouths shut.

At the roadside
hunched houses cough.

Newspapers shuffle by,
hands in their pockets. 10
The gutter gargles.

A motorbike snarls;
Dustbins flinch.

Streetlights bare
their yellow teeth. 15

The motorway's
cat-black tongue
lashes across
the glistening back
of the tarmac night. 20

1. How is the city described in this poem? 1 mark []
- a. as a jungle full of friendly creatures
 - b. as a silent and scary place
 - c. as a place full of dangerous animals
 - d. as a noisy but inviting place

2. "Lizard cars cruise by;
Their radiators grin" (1.2-3) is an example of a (metaphor, simile, personification). 1 mark []

3. Find and copy an example of a run-on line. 2 marks []

4. "The gutter gargles" (1.11) is an example of (rhyme, alliteration , onomatopoeia) 1 mark []

5. Explain why you think the poet chose these words. 2 marks []

6. Find another two examples where the poet has chosen two words that start with the same letter. 2 marks []

a. _____

b. _____

7. "cough" (l.8) and "snarls" (l.12) are used by the poet to express (light, sound, movement). 1 mark []

PART 2: PROSE – UNPREPARED TEXT 10 marks []

Read this text and answer **all** the questions.

The light was fading, creating new shadows and dark patches around me. Eyes 1
glimmered from tree hollows. The wind wailed between distorted trunks, carrying the
sickly stink of wood rot. I moved faster, ignoring the thorns that caught at my jeans, the
damp leaves that dirtied my skin.

I lifted my face, letting the light and shadow dance across my skin. Bees 5
hummed in and out of the pennyroyal*. I inhaled its minty smell and continued on,
delighting in the sound of my feet sliding through the leaves. Above my head I could
hear the squawking birds flying high up in the sky, as the wind whistled around the
trees, disturbing the leaves and the squirrels' chatter.

All of a sudden, silence fell around me. The trees stood utterly still, statues in a 10
living museum where no leaf dared to fall.

* a plant

Answer these questions about the text

1. Where is the speaker according to you? 1 mark []

2. "The wind wailed between distorted trunks, carrying the sickly stink of wood rot." (l.2-3)
a. Quote a **figure of speech** used in the line above taken from the text. 1 mark []

b. What **type of figure of speech** is it? 1 mark []

c. In your own words **explain** what the speaker is describing in this **figure of speech**. 2 marks []

3. The speaker seems to be frightened or running away from something. Quote **a sentence** from the text to show this. 1 mark []

4. Quote **two** examples of **alliteration**. 2 marks []

a. _____ b. _____

5. Quote **two** examples of **onomatopoeia**. 2 marks []

a. _____ b. _____

SECTION D: COMPOSITION (25 marks)

Write between 150 and 200 words on ONE of the following:

1. Write a short story ending with the following words: “... *it was a joke after all.*”
2. A friend living abroad has enquired about the recent concerts in Malta by famous singers. Write a letter to him/her describing some of these events that you had attended to.
3. Your family are sitting together for lunch. Continue the following conversation which takes place during the meal.

Mother: Have you booked the tickets for Tunisia?

Father: I couldn't. I had a lot to do. Anyway, there is still time for the Easter holidays.

You: I don't want to go there. I want to go to England.